

REMARKS

Applicant has studied the Office Action dated July 6, 2007. Claims 25-28 and 31-39 are pending. Claims 1-24 have been canceled without prejudice. New claims 31-39 have been added to claim the disclosed invention more completely. Claims 25, 31, and 35 are independent claims.

Objections to Claims

The Examiner objected to claims 4, 8, and 9. However, these objections are rendered moot since these claims have been canceled by the present amendment.

§ 112 Rejections

Claims 7, 11, 13-15, 20, 22, and 24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. These claims have been canceled rendering the rejection moot.

§ 102 Rejection

Claims 1, 16, 17, 29, and 30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Yoshida et al. (US 6,690,417). These rejections are rendered moot since these claims have been canceled by the present amendment.

§ 103 Rejection

Claims 2-4, and 8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yoshida et al. in view of Funahashi (US 6,115,197). These rejections are rendered moot since these claims have been canceled by the present amendment.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant graciously acknowledges the Examiner's allowance of claims 25-28.

New Claims

The newly submitted claims 31-39 have not been formally rejected by the Examiner. However, Applicant provides the following comments relating to the patentability of these new claims. Support for these claims may be found, for example, in paras. [0020], [0024], and [0025] of the specification as originally filed. No new matter has been added.

There are several differences between the system disclosed in the Yoshida et al. patent and the claimed invention. First of all, contrary to the Examiner's assertion in paragraph 5 at page 4 of the Office action, that Figs. 1 and 2 of Yoshida et al. disclose a hinge that rotatively connects a lower body to an upper body and a photographic apparatus is installed facing outwardly from a lateral side of the hinge, it is respectfully noted that Figs. 1 and 2 of Yoshida et al. clearly show that the photographic apparatus is on a lower body of the device. Therefore, Yoshida et al. fails to disclose or suggest an optical zoom camera coupled to a lateral side of the hinge and positioned to face outward from the lateral side of the hinge as recited in claim 31.

Moreover, in Yoshida et al., the photographic apparatus is not "located at an end portion of an end side of the lower body, wherein the end side is located between the front and rear sides," as recited in independent claims 31 and 35.

Applicant submits that Funahashi fails to cure the above-discussed deficiencies of Yoshida et al. Accordingly, Applicant further submits that independent claims 31 and 35 are patentable over Yoshida et al. and Funahashi for at least the reasons identified above. Dependent claims 32-34 and 36-39 are also patentable at least by virtue of their dependence upon their respective independent claims.

CONCLUSION

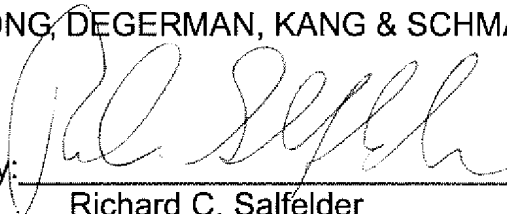
In light of the above remarks, Applicant submits that the present Amendment places all claims of the present application in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the application is requested.

If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at the Los Angeles, California telephone number (213) 623-2221 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance.

LEE, HONG, DEGERMAN, KANG & SCHMADEKA

Date: December 6, 2007

By:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Richard C. Salfelder", written over a horizontal line.

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